

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-21 are currently pending in the application. In the above Non-Final Office Action the Examiner has made the following actions.

Claim Allowances

The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-20 have been allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for her review of the claims and responses, and appreciates the Examiner's allowance of these claims. Applicant further notes that claim 7 was cancelled without prejudice in a previous Office Action response, and therefore assumes that claims 2-6 and 8-20 are the remaining allowed claims.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 112. Applicant does not concede these rejections; however, in order to further prosecution Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 21 without prejudice.

Concluding Comments

Because all pending issues in this application have now been addressed, Applicant believes that the remaining claims 2-6 and 8-20 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant requests that these claims be allowed and prosecution on the merits in this application be closed.

The undersigned would of course be available to discuss the present application with the Examiner if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a discussion could lead to resolution of any outstanding issues.

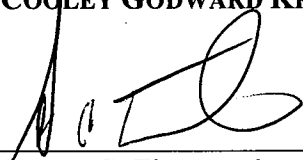
Dated: November 6, 2007

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